

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF TEXAS DISTRICT 22
INTERNS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, interns are often overlooked as we all rush around the Capitol, but I believe that Washington, DC, would come to a halt if there were none. The importance of the interns' role cannot be overstated, for they handle many tasks that, while not particularly glamorous, create a much more efficient workplace and allow legislative staffers to concentrate on policies that benefit our constituents and people across the country.

This summer, my office was fortunate enough to have six great interns: Sue Banerjee, Kelly Boss, Omar Farid, Miles Hilder, Jenna Kubecka, and Kelsey McDowell. Each intern performed exceptionally well and deserves much appreciation for their service to the people of Texas' 22nd Congressional District. Their hard work and determination was noticed by everyone in the office, as well as by constituents, and I am proud to have such a talented and competent group of individuals working in my office. I know that the work ethic they have demonstrated this summer will carry them far in life.

These impressive young men and women are certainly poised to do great things and contribute significantly to our country's future. My staff, constituents, and I thank you all for your service and wish you the best in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

July 30, 2007—Rollcall vote 758, I would have voted "yea;" Rollcall vote 759, I would have voted "nay;" Rollcall vote 760, I would have voted "nay;" Rollcall vote 761, I would have voted "nay;" Rollcall vote 762, I would have voted "nay;"

July 31, 2007—Rollcall vote 763, I would have voted "yea;" Rollcall vote 764, I would have voted "yea;" Rollcall vote 765, I would have voted "yea."

CONDEMNING THE ATTACK ON
THE AMIA JEWISH COMMUNITY
CENTER IN BUENOS AIRES, AR-
GENTINA

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 188, which condemns the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This attack reduced the 7-story headquarters of the Argentinean Jewish community to rubble and resulted in 85 deaths and 300 wounded. Everyday, Jews around the world face the injustice of anti-Semitism, and many have lost their lives because of bigotry.

This resolution condemns the attacks but also applauds the government of Argentina for increasing the pace of the continuing investigation of this attack. It is important that we support this resolution to encourage Argentina to continue to provide the resources necessary for its judicial system and intelligence agencies to fully investigate the AMIA case and bring those responsible to justice.

When we as individuals or as a government allow intolerance and hatred to fester and flourish, we are faced with terrible consequences. Put simply, intolerance must not be tolerated.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

FARM, NUTRITION, AND
BIOENERGY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2419) to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, the attached language was inadvertently omitted from H. Rept. 110-256, in regard to Country of Origin Labeling, to H.R. 2419, the Farm, Nutrition and Bioenergy Act of 2007.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING FOR MEAT
AGREEMENT

The Committee recognizes that the issue of Country of Origin Labeling for meat has become increasingly contentious. With implementation of the statute enacted in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 looming, the Committee leadership requested that representatives of the various interested parties discuss opportunities to resolve issues of division. These discussions resulted in general agreement on aspects of

the law which could be modified to achieve the goals of: improving marketability of meat products; providing consumers the information they may seek with regard to the origin of meat products; and, doing so in a manner which minimizes the cost of compliance on livestock producers and the meat trade.

During consideration of H.R. 2419, the Committee was presented with a list of items that were agreed upon by the various interested parties. The list included suggestions to improve the statute with regard to issues including product labels, records, and record-keeping.

With regard to product labeling, the Committee adopted amendments to Section 281 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 that would establish four categories of country of origin labels for meat. The legislative language outlining these categories is self-explanatory.

Another area of concern was labeling of ground meat products. The amendment adopted by the Committee provides that the label will include a narrative list of reasonably possible countries from which the product may have been derived.

While the Committee recognizes the interest in providing consumers with information regarding the origin of their meat products, the Committee also recognizes the potential cost associated with complying with any label mandate. As such, the Committee has adopted a grandfather provision to address concerns about the transition.

With regard to requirements for records and recordkeeping, the Committee has adopted provisions that will enable less burdensome verification requirements. Specifically, the Committee has adopted an amendment that will place limits on the authority of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to audit covered entities. To further shield all parties from liability, the amendment limits the records upon which these USDA audits may rely. By limiting these records to those kept as part of a normal business practice, it is the intent of the Committee that retailers and other covered entities will not impose unnecessary or burdensome obligations on their suppliers.

The final item of agreement dealt with the issues of liability and enforcement. The amendment adopted by the Committee will limit the applicability of civil penalties to a covered entity that has not made an effort to comply and continues to willfully violate this section. The Committee specifically intends that violations resulting from a good faith effort to come into compliance shall not be subject to civil penalties.

DR. MOSSMAN NOMINATED AS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR
OF TEXAS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, knowledge is one of the greatest gifts teachers bestow upon students. They play invaluable roles in nurturing and giving young people the

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